

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed May 19, 2004:

Claims 16-18, 32-38 and 41 were indicated to be allowable.

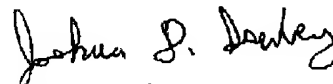
Claims 14, 15, 19-23, 26, and 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smart et al. (5,801,057) in view of Muller et al. (5,285,131).

Claims 24, 25, 39 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smart et al. (5,801,057) in view of Muller et al. (5,285,131) and further in view of Smithgall (3,597,046).

To expedite prosecution, the applicants have cancelled claims 14, 15, 19-26, 29-31, 39 and 40. The applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the rejected claims in a later filed divisional or continuation application. The Applicants submit that entry of this amendment is proper after Final Action since it cancels rejected claims and leaves only allowed claims pending in the application.

In view of the foregoing, applicants believe that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance. The applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration of the application and a notice of allowance. If for any reason the Examiner believes any of the claims are not in condition for allowance, he is encouraged to phone the undersigned at (510) 896-8328 so that any remaining issues may be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,



Joshua D. Isenberg

(Reg. No. 41,088)

Date: August 19, 2004

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